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CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

LETTER

FROM

THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE,

TRANSMITTING

A list of persons employed and statement of expenditures and of means adopted for the suppression of contagious and infectious diseases among domestic animals.

DECEMBER 18, 1884.—Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

Washington, D. C., December 17, 1884.

SIR: In accordance with the provisions of section 11 of "An act for the establishment of a Bureau of Animal Industry," &c., I herewith transmit "a list of the names of all persons employed, an itemized statement of all expenditures under this act, and full particulars of the means adopted and carried into effect for the suppression of contagious, infectious, or communicable diseases among domestic animals."

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. LORING,

Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. J. G. CARLISLE,
Speaker House of Representatives.

REPORT.

Immediately after the approval of the "Act for the establishment of a Bureau of Animal Industry," &c., the Bureau was organized, and the work provided for was commenced.

The disease made most prominent in the law is the contagious pleuropneumonia of cattle, and as at that time there was considerable doubt among members of Congress and State and local authorities as to the existence of this disease in the United States, the first work to be done was evidently to make those investigations into the existence and nature of the diseases of animals in this country which were specially authorized in the law.

The governors and local authorities of the States where pleuro-pneumonia was believed to exist were requested to co-operate with this Bureau and to grant its inspectors authority to enter upon the premises of the citizens of those States in order to make the necessary inspections.

In the State of New York the inspectors of the Bureau were authorized to act as inspectors of the State board of health, and they also received the cordial assistance and co-operation of the boards of health of New York City, Brooklyn, and the other local boards of the district in the vicinity of Brooklyn. With this assistance the inspectors have been able to make a very thorough and complete investigation of the most populous districts of the State of New York, where pleuro-pneumonia was supposed to exist. Some of the more sparsely settled sections of Long Island, where this disease has been reported, have not been inspected, owing to a lack of time and the limited number of employes allowed by the law. The New Jersey authorities have also co-operated cheerfully in investigating the condition of cattle in that State, but owing to the magnitude of the work in New York but a comparatively small portion of New Jersey has been gone over.

The governor of Pennsylvania and his special agent employed for the extermination of pleuro-pneumonia have expressed their willingness to co-operate with the Bureau in making an investigation, but no work has yet been done in that State. Correspondence with the governor of Maryland justified the belief that we shall have his cheerful co-operation to the full extent of the State law, but the details have not yet been arranged. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia were requested to give our inspectors authority to make an inspection of the cattle in Washington and vicinity, but such authority has not yet been granted.

The board of health has co-operated with the inspectors of the Bureau, however, and a very satisfactory inspection has been made. The following table gives the result of these inspections to date :

Location.	Herds examined.	Cattle examined.	Herds infected.	Cattle affected with pleuro-pneumonia.
New York City	1, 147	6, 365	16	36
Long Island	1, 463	10, 072	119	325
Staten Island	555	3, 857	12	13
New Jersey	349	4, 381	42	81
District of Columbia	422	2, 482	27	30
New York slaughter-houses		408		41
New York offal dock		82		22
Jersey City abattoir (40 visits)				13
Total	3, 936	27, 647	216	561

REINSPECTION.

Brooklyn	60	868	60	100
Jersey City	4	39	4	11
Total	64	907	64	111

It may be remarked here that while all of these States have signified a willingness to co-operate in this investigation, there has been some objection to such an inspection upon the ground that more cases of disease would be found than the States could dispose of with their limited



appropriations, and consequently it would cause much embarrassment to the State authorities. It has also been argued with much feeling that the publication of the number of cases existing in these States would create unnecessary alarm, and interfere greatly with the commerce of the country, and particularly of the infected sections, without accomplishing a beneficial result, since sufficient provision had not been made for exterminating the disease. This inspection, moreover, does not give a correct idea of the number of cases which occur in a specified time in the district examined. There can be no doubt that a number of cases reported actually existed at the time the inspection was made, but if a tour had been made a month later we should probably have found as many at this new inspection, a large part of which would have been new cases. Again, many dairymen in all the large cities, where the disease exists, have become very expert in the management of their cattle in order to avoid loss. The cows are kept in good condition for the butcher, and as soon as the first symptoms of the disease are seen the animals are sent to the slaughter-house.

The cases which were found by our inspectors were consequently only those which for some reason had not been or could not be disposed of in this way.

Considering these facts and that probably not more than one-half of the cattle in the infected district have been examined, it would be a moderate estimate to suppose that 1,500 cattle in this infected district are annually affected with pleuro-pneumonia.

The exact number, however, can never be determined until measures are adopted by which the movement of cattle from infected stables can be effectually controlled.

There have been a certain number of stables, though comparatively few in number, to which our inspectors could not gain admittance. It is probable that all of these can be reached either by the special laws relating to this disease or by those for the protection of the public health, but it has not been deemed best to consume time in contesting such cases while this preliminary investigation was being made. There has also been much difficulty in making the inspections, owing to the fact that many of the cattle were on pasture when our inspectors called to see them, and in a large number of cases, the owners absolutely refused to bring them up for inspection, and, as it is well known an inspection in the field for pleuro-pneumonia is of very little service. Generally a second visit was made to these places at a time when the cows were in the stable for milking, and in this way nearly all have been examined, but more time has been consumed than would otherwise have been necessary.

During the month of August contagious pleuro-pneumonia was found in a number of herds in the State of Illinois. The governor and State veterinarian were notified and the infected farms were at once quarantined by them, and the diseased animals slaughtered under the State law covering such cases. A number of cattle from one of these herds were shipped to Cynthiana, Ky., and placed among a large number of other animals (about two hundred and fifty). The disease has since broken out in this herd, and, according to the latest information received, twelve have died. The governor of Kentucky was promptly notified, and the owners of the cattle were informed that any shipments from their herd would render them liable to the penalties imposed in section 7 of the act establishing this Bureau. There is no special law in Kentucky applicable to the suppression of this disease, and the gen-

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eral laws relating to nuisances are not regarded as sufficiently specific in their provisions to secure the condemnation of the herd.

The disease was carried to Illinois by cattle from an infected herd at Troy, Ohio, and other cattle were shipped from this herd to Dayton, Ohio, where the plague again appeared. The governor of Ohio, and the State Board of Agriculture, were notified, but there appeared to be no law in Ohio by which such cases can be reached. Mr. Dye, the owner of the herd at Troy, allowed me to slaughter seven of his animals which had been sick and had made an apparent recovery, but which were still so much diseased as to be dangerous to other animals. He hopes to receive some compensation from the State legislature at its next session. At Dayton there are still five animals with badly-diseased lungs, but as we have learned of no new cases for more than six months, it is hoped that it will extend no farther. An inspector of the Bureau has recently been sent to watch the infected herds in Ohio and Kentucky, to examine into the condition of the cattle in the country near them, and to report any violation of the law which may occur.

The disease appears to have been carried to Ohio by cattle purchased in the vicinity of Baltimore. About 627 animals were exposed to the contagion in the States west of the Alleghanies, and 105 cases of disease have occurred. We have learned of no extension of the plague to fresh herds since it was discovered and the proper measures adopted to prevent the movement of cattle from the infected farms.

This outbreak furnishes incontestible evidence of the contagiousness of the pleuro pneumonia of this country. It appeared in Mr. Dye's herd after the introduction of animals from the infected district of the East. It was carried from there to Dayton, Ohio, where 13 cases occurred, and to Virginia, Ill., where it was distributed by animals sold at a public sale to Geneva, Peoria, Springfield, Jacksonville, Danvers, and Rushville. From Geneva it was carried, by animals sold, to Elmhurst, Sterling, and Saint Charles, in Illinois, and at Cynthiana, in Kentucky. No cases of this disease have been discovered at any places in the West that are not clearly connected by the movement of cattle with an infected herd, with the single exception of the Troy cattle, among which were taken a number of animals from unknown herds, gathered up in the vicinity of Baltimore, where we know the disease exists. Many cases of disease have been investigated at various places in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Tennessee, in most of which the symptoms of lung affection had been reported to us, but in none of these cases, with the exception of those noted above, have we been able to find the symptoms and post mortem appearances which indicate contagious pleuro-pneumonia. Suspicion has in this way been removed from many valuable herds, and what at one time threatened to be a serious damage to commerce by the panic created has been shorn of its terrors, by showing how few herds had been contaminated, and that the disease would not be allowed to spread to others.

The experiments instituted to test the contagiousness of pleuro-pneumonia as it exists in this country have been continued to the present time.

Before the establishment of the Bureau, fifteen animals had been exposed to various cows affected with the disease, which had been found in the dairy stables about Washington, but no positive cases of disease resulted from this exposure, though one cow contracted a severe cough without other signs of lung disease.

Fearing that the animals used in this experiment had already been exposed to the disease before they were purchased for the experiment



station, and had in this way become insusceptible, four cows were brought from West Virginia in the month of March, and were exposed to three sick cows from Washington stables. All of these cows contracted acute lung disease, which was observed with two about the middle of April and with the two others during the first half of May.

One was very severely affected, and would have died had she not been slaughtered. The remaining three were improving at the time of slaughter, and would have recovered. Three showed the characteristic lesions of pleuro-pneumonia; one presented the lesions of pleurisy without pneumonia. In September a stable was built on Barren Island, near New York, a point selected because of its isolation, and because there were but few cattle on the island that would be exposed to danger. No disease of this nature had previously affected the cattle that were kept there. Eighteen cows and thirteen calves were purchased and placed in the stable, which was surrounded with a large yard, into which they could be driven for exercise. Sixteen of the cows were from Canada, and were selected for their healthfulness and fine appearance. The calves were the offspring of these cows.

Five cows from Brooklyn affected with pleuro-pneumonia were placed in the same stable. Between that time and the present twelve cows and five calves have contracted pleuro-pneumonia, as reported by Dr. L. W. McLean, who is in charge of the stable. I saw three of these cows slaughtered, October 29, and can testify that they were in the last stage of pleuro-pneumonia, both lungs being affected in all. A large extent of lung tissue was involved, with marked appearance, effusion into the pleural cavities, and extensive adhesions to the ribs and diaphragm—characters which are relied upon the world over to distinguish contagious pleuro-pneumonia. These experiments, consequently, demonstrate incontestably the contagious nature of the pleuro-pneumonia of this country, and appear to establish the fact that it is equally virulent with the pleuro-pneumonia of Europe.

No regulations could be adopted the present year in regard to the Southern fever, or so-called Texas fever of cattle, because it was too late in the season before the Bureau was organized.

The investigations necessary to define the district from which cattle are dangerous have been going on during the year, and it is hoped that before spring we shall know the exact limits of the section which is permanently infected with this disease. Such knowledge seems to be absolutely essential before any efficient regulations can be made for controlling Texas fever and preventing the losses which annually occur from it. The railroad and stock-yard companies were requested to clean and disinfect cars, and to set apart certain yards for the exclusive use of the dangerous cattle; but as we had no power to enforce such regulations, nor even men to supervise the work, but few companies heeded the request, and in most cases the measures were so imperfectly carried out as to be practically without result.

Losses from swine plague during the past six months have been enormous and very widespread. The investigations of this disease are being continued, but the great demands made upon our time in the investigation of the cattle disease, referred to above, have prevented us from reaching any practical results, and have not allowed us to properly test the many proposed remedies which have been brought to our attention.

In addition to the veterinary work referred to above, five employés of the Bureau have been engaged in collecting statistics and other information in regard to the magnitude of the animal industry, the breeds

employed in its various branches in different sections of the country, their comparative value in these different localities, the peculiarities and needs of the industry, the losses from various causes, and other facts necessary for intelligent conclusions in regard to its present condition and prospects.

All of these reports are not yet to hand, but they are nearly ready, and will be printed in full in the first annual report of the Bureau of Animal Industry, which is now in preparation.

I append an itemized list of expenditures from July 1 to November 30, with which appear the names of all persons employed.

At no one time have there been more than twenty persons employed in addition to the chief, the two agents, and the clerk provided for in the act.

Date.	Name.	Object.	Amount.
1884.			
July 1	D. E. Salmon	Salary for June	\$247 25
7	do	Expenses to Albany and New York City	62 05
12	J. S. Redman	Eight pigs	24 00
15	W. J. Yoste	Fifteen days' salary, July	24 46
16	G. Hartig & Sons	Fly-nets	3 50
16	William B. E. Miller	Salary and expenses, June 15 to 30, inclusive	193 25
25	J. B. Grinnell	Salary and expenses for June	236 40
25	George R. Vernon	Salary and expenses, June 14 to 30, inclusive	111 83
31	Thomas J. Keane	Ten pigs	27 50
31	D. E. Salmon	Expenses to New York	53 05
31	do	Salary for July	252 70
31	Miles Fuller	do	126 40
31	W. H. Rose	do	134 80
31	Theobald Smith	do	134 80
31	William Alexander	do	60 60
31	B. F. Yoste	Salary for 16 days, July	26 09
31	S. E. Sinkfield	Salary for July	46 30
Aug. 1	William Rose	Seven days' salary, July	56 00
1	T. M. Spilman	Three pigs and coop	6 25
2	H. J. Ruppert	Rent of veterinary station, July	40 00
6	R. C. Saunders, jr	Salary and expenses, July	182 60
9	Z. D. Gilman	Dry plates, &c	24 50
11	Estate of G. M. Wight	Cylinder desk	40 00
12	Henry M. Taylor	Salary and expenses, July 10 to 31, inclusive	300 40
13	Scoville Manufacturing Company	Revolving camera, &c	66 12
19	H. W. Rowland	Salary and expenses, July 1 to 16	137 70
19	George R. Vernon	Salary and expenses, July	197 85
19	William B. E. Miller	do	294 52
27	James Bradley	Eight pigs	20 00
29	W. H. Rose	Expenses to Virginia	7 50
30	J. M. Wine	File-cases	143 00
30	John C. Parker	Stationery	67 00
31	D. E. Salmon	Salary for August	252 70
31	Miles Fuller	do	126 40
31	W. H. Rose	do	134 80
31	Theobald Smith	do	134 80
31	William Alexander	do	60 60
31	B. F. Yoste	do	50 50
31	S. E. Sinkfield	do	46 30
Sept. 1	D. E. Salmon	Expenses	188 56
2	Charles Fischer	Repairing surgical case	3 50
5	R. C. Saunders, jr	Salary and expenses, August	191 75
6	H. J. Ruppert	Rent of station, August	40 00
10	J. C. Parker	Envelopes and stamps	23 50
13	H. M. Taylor	Salary and expenses, August	365 50
15	C., N. O. St. & S. W. Ry. Co.	Tickets	12 50
15	Patrick McCabe	Sixteen head of cattle	1,060 00
16	Ch. B. Michener	Salary and expenses, August	165 00
16	J. B. Grinnell	do	298 95
16	do	Salary and expenses, July	233 05
16	M. R. Trombower	Salary and expenses, August	310 70
16	William Rose	do	144 00
16	John Boyd	do	104 00
16	James H. Payne	Salary and expenses, July and August	490 75
16	William B. E. Miller	Expenses	47 50
17	H. W. Rowland	Salary and expenses, August	235 06
17	J. W. Hawk	do	281 32
20	W. H. Rose	Expenses in Virginia	16 50
20	Thomas J. Herr	Salary and expenses, July 24 to September 1	290 80
20	George R. Vernon	Salary and expenses, August	352 00
20	J. H. Fullenwider	do	350 90
20	Robert Farley, jr	Salary, July 17 to 31, inclusive	312 00
22	Z. D. Gilman	Jars, &c	29 47
23	William B. E. Miller	Salary and expenses, August	318 50
26	S. H. Gage	Section knife	5 00
26	Anna Miman	One cow	20 00
26	Thomas F. White	Two cows	100 00
26	Julia Gans	Three cows	135 00
30	Ch. B. Michener	Salary and expenses, September	116 70
30	George R. Vernon	do	356 00
30	Robert Farley, jr	do	247 25
30	William Rose	do	162 70
30	D. E. Salmon	Salary, September	244 60
30	Miles Fuller	do	122 20
30	W. H. Rose	do	130 40
30	Theobald Smith	do	130 40
30	William Alexander	do	58 80
30	B. F. Yoste	do	49 00
30	S. E. Sinkfield	do	44 90
30	William B. E. Miller	Salary and expenses, September	342 85
Oct. 3	W. H. Rose	Expenses to Maryland and Virginia	8 30
4	R. C. Sanders, jr	Salary and expenses, September	183 67
4	H. J. Ruppert	Rent of veterinary station	40 00

8 CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AMONG DOMESTICATED ANIMALS.

Date.	Name.	Object.	Amount.
1884.			
Oct. 6	Thomas J. Herr	Salary and expenses, September.....	\$237 65
7	M. R. Trombower	do	333 5
7	J. H. Fullenwider	do	341 90
7	G. M. Wight's estate.....	Desks and chairs.....	92 00
9	W. H. Wray	Salary and expenses.....	361 95
9	Henry M. Taylor	Salary and expenses, September	397 50
9	H. W. Rowland	do	229 99
9	P. White's Sons.....	Building stable, &c	577 95
10	J. W. Hawk	Salary and expenses, September	225 95
11	B. Westermann & Co	Books.....	164 05
11	J. B. Grinnell	Salary and expenses, September.....	260 85
13	W. M. Galt & Co	Feed	423 99
13	James H. Payne	Salary and expenses, September	260 00
13	Catherine Mooney	One cow	22 50
16	William B. E. Miller	Hay, grain, &c	111 40
20	Western Union Telegraph Co	Messages	23 11
22	D. E. Salmon	Expenses	250 20
22	do	Expenses in laboratory	3 48
23	Western Union Telegraph Co.....	Messages	30 45
27	R. C. Saunders, jr	Salary and expenses, October	116 81
29	J. Blake White	Salary and expenses, July 17 to September 30, 1884.....	249 57
31	D. E. Salmon	Salary, October	252 70
31	W. H. Rose	do	134 80
31	Theobald Smith	do	134 80
31	Miles Fuller	do	126 40
31	William Alexander	do	60 60
31	B. F. Yoste	do	50 50
31	S. E. Sinkfield.....	do	46 30
Nov. 1	J. Blake White	Salary and stamps, October.....	101 20
1	William Rose	do	164 40
1	Scoville Manufacturing Company	Group lens.....	67 50
3	George R. Vernon	Salary and expenses, October.....	374 45
3	Z. D. Gilman	Microscopic slides, &c	9 35
4	Lachlan McLean	Salary and expenses, September 25 to October 31.....	313 60
4	Ch. B. Michener	Salary and expenses, October	178 00
4	James H. Payne	do	270 00
4	J. H. Fullenwider	do	352 35
4	Thomas J. Herr.....	do	258 60
4	William B. E. Miller	do	405 30
5	W. H. Wray	do	197 75
6	D. E. Salmon	Expenses to New York	34 10
6	R. C. Saunders, jr	Salary and expenses, October	60 86
6	M. R. Trombower	do	285 02
7	H. W. Rowland	do	269 03
7	J. W. Hawk	do	297 55
8	H. J. Ruppert	Rent of veterinary station, October	40 00
8	M. Sexton	One cow	10 00
8	Andrew C. Cooke	Four calves	40 00
12	Endres & Lang	Ocean freight	13 85
14	H. M. Taylor	Salary and expenses, October	437 25
15	Seligman Pifferling	One cow	25 00
15	B. F. Hanson & Co	Copying paper on cattle industry	5 00
17	Mackellar, Smith & Jordan.....	Type	65
17	L. S. Bowman & Co	Feed for cattle	254 42
19	John A. Baker	Gazetteer, &c	34 50
21	J. B. Grinnell	Salary and expenses	235 50
22	W. H. Rose	Expenses in Maryland	6 40
24	B. Westermann & Co	Books.....	21 82
24	do	do	6 96
28	Lachlan McLean	Salary and expenses, November	245 00
29	M. W. Wood	One cow	50 00
29	Robert Leith & Sons.....	Brass funnel and box	10 50
30	D. E. Salmon	Salary, November	244 60
30	W. H. Rose	do	130 40
30	Theobald Smith.....	do	130 40
30	Miles Fuller	do	122 20
30	William Alexander	do	58 80
30	B. F. Yoste	do	49 00
30	S. E. Sinkfield	do	44 90
30	R. C. Saunders, jr	Salary and expenses, November	120 80
	Total.....		24,036 10



